



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 263 13th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

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GULF SHRIMP VESSEL PERMITS: A REMINDER

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reminds all shrimp vessels owners and operators who intend to fish for shrimp in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico that they must obtain a commercial vessel permit.

How to Obtain a Permit

To apply for a permit, the owner or operator of a shrimp vessel should contact:

Permits Office, NMFS Southeast Region
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
Phone: 727-824-5326

The following text outlines the application process; for complete details regarding permits and applications, please contact the Permits Office at the address and phone number above.

Completed permit applications should be submitted at least 30 days prior to the date on which the applicant desires to have the permit made effective. Any delay in submitting a completed application could delay an applicant's receipt of the permit, and thus, preclude legal fishing for Gulf shrimp until the permit can be issued. All vessel permits will be

mailed to owners, whether the applicant is an owner or an operator. The application fee is \$50 to obtain an initial federal Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery permit.

The non-transferrable permit will be valid for one year from which it is issued unless it is revoked, suspended, or modified, or if the vessel is sold. Although a permit will be issued on an annual basis, an application for its renewal will only be required every 2 years. In the interim year, renewal will be automatic for a vessel owner who has met the specific requirements for the permit.

NMFS is dedicated to protecting and preserving the nation's living marine resources and their habitats through scientific research, management, and enforcement. NMFS provides effective stewardship of these resources for the benefit of the nation, supporting coastal communities that depend upon them, and helping to provide safe and healthy seafood to consumers and recreational opportunities for the American public.

NOAA is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources.

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